



DIR-03-246

June 23, 2003

Mr. John C. Browne  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
LANSCE-3, MS H855  
Los Alamos, NM 87545

Dear John:

Congratulations on your upcoming retirement. I wanted you to know how very grateful *everyone* here is for your many years of dedicated service.

Your personal commitment to the mission of this laboratory and your dedication to instilling a sense of institutional values here are both marks of your personal leadership.

You began to make the changes that will be central to our role in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is well known that you expected people to be treated with professionalism and compassion, a principle that was embodied in the Six Zeroes. The success of the Integrated Safety and Security Management program is also a result of your leadership.

Your personal commitment to promoting and maintaining the laboratory's scientific excellence is to be commended. Not only have you been outspoken about the importance of encouraging America's youth to enter scientific careers, you have been a strong advocate for enhancing the educational opportunities for northern New Mexico's youth. By establishing the Endowed Leadership Scholarship Fund, you and your wife, Marti, have helped several area students to realize their dreams of attending college.

You were also instrumental in establishing the Los Alamos National Laboratory Medal award, which recognizes the exceptional efforts and contributions of an individual or small group in making Los Alamos an internationally acclaimed research institution. This medal is the highest honor the Laboratory can bestow.

LANL employees will not forget the leadership and compassion you exhibited during the Cerro Grande Fire that changed the lives of so many in our community.

Finally, the personal courage and conviction you showed when you chose to step down as director to allow the Laboratory to move forward from the controversies of last fall is the mark of a supremely dedicated leader.

I will always be grateful for the opportunity you provided me by bringing me to Los Alamos. I know the employees join me in wishing you and Marti the very best in your retirement. Thank you again for your outstanding service to Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Sincerely,

G. Peter Nanos  
Director

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